"UP RIVER"

Working yourself out of a job is the aim of every Church Army Officer. Captain Ron Griffin, Parish Evangelist in the Upper Macleay area is no exception to this ideal. It is hoped that in two years the Upper Macleay could be self supportive enough to be once again a parish with its own Rector, as it was some years ago.

The Upper Macleay known locally as "Up River", is a large area with several small villages and towns. It lies south-west of Kempsey, mainly cattle country in very rugged terrain with 80% dirt roads. By Australian standards it is not sparsley populated. The population centres around places like Sherwood, Willawarrin, Bellbrook, Comara and other smaller places. Each centre is isolated from the others, making it difficult for people to congregate together for ministry and worship in large groups. Hence even the smallest village may have its own small Church. On some Sundays Captain Griffin may have to lead in worship in five different Churches throughout his area.

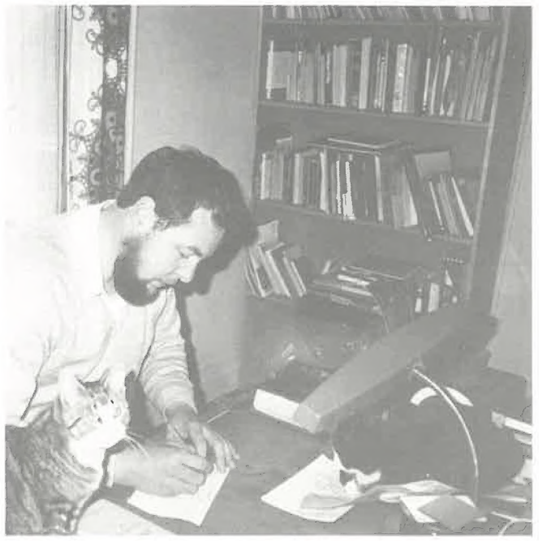
Home is a small comfortable weather board cottage in Willawarrin. As a bachelor his cooking arrangements fluctuate between a microwave oven and an electric fry pan. With a fuel stove for heating. Household pets are two cats. The household budgeting is helped by gifts of home-made jams, eggs, pumpkins and other produce from parishioners. Recreation is the occasional Monday (his day off) at the beach and a few vigorous games of squash on a Thursday night.

At work or play Captain Ron Griffin is where the action is!

CAPTAIN RON GRIFFIN, C.A. says,
"I've been made very welcome by the people of the Upper Macleay area.

I am treated as a professional. My boss, Canon Ron Dyson, Rector of Kempsey, gives me a good bit of authority to carry out the ministry of an evangelist. I have a licence to perform the functions of a Reader in the Diocese of Grafton and also to take funerals and baptisms. On Sundays I lead and preach at Services held at the various small Churches in the area.

Off Road Fellowship



Two cats for company

Many parishioners take an active part in worship. We celebrate Holy Communion once a month.

My pastoral work includes visiting people in their homes. When I knock on doors, people are usually surprised to find somebody in C.A. uniform standing on their door steps. Country style, I'm always invited in. I find people want to talk and it gives me the opportunity to share with them about my work and why I'm there. To many, a parish evangelist — is something new.

Some places are hard to get to, but in the Subaru I can get almost anywhere I have to go. Across creeks and paddocks to people on properties miles from anywhere. As you can imagine I clock up quite a few kilometres each month!

Children's ministry is mainly through S.I.P.S. (Social Intellectual, Physical and Spiritual) on a Wednesday afternoon. It's a programme which is a cross between C.E.B.S. and G.F.S. It's open to all denominations for boys and girls of primary school age. We have painting, puzzles, games, Bible stories, music and many other activities. Some of the children's parents help in these activities and I couldn't manage without them.

The Willawarrin Women's Guild which meets once a month is very supportive of my work. They often invite me along to their meetings and functions and I value this contact.

In my pastoral ministry I try to visit the Up River people who are sick in Kempsey Hospital. Also the aged in the Kempsey Community Home For The Aged. Home communions for shut-ins give me the opportunity to share in prayer and Bible reading for those unable to join us in regular Sunday worship.

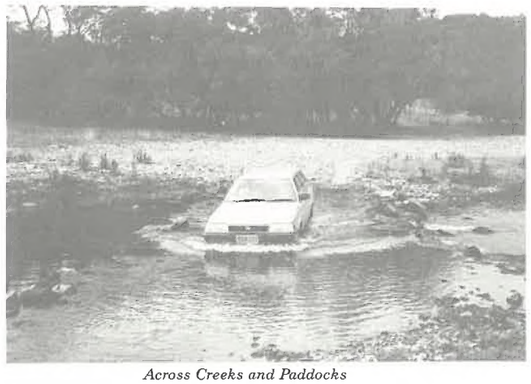
Life Up River is exciting, challenging and very very busy."

DAVID SCHAFER — a parishioner from Warbro says,
"Captain Ron is a likeable fellow, his dedication and amiable manner have made him well liked and accepted by the local people. He is doing a new work in the Upper Macleay and is keen to meet people's needs and to spread the Gospel.

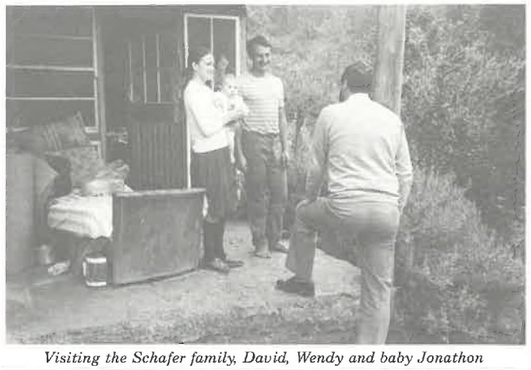
He came to an area which has many needs and challenges and he has visited and come to know and help many people. To get around the countryside, he purchased a four wheel drive, Subaru. For the long hot summer he's got himself an Akubra hat!

Ron is a frequent and welcome visitor to our place which is off the beaten path and a bit hard to get to, so we usually share a meal together when he calls on us. There are now two midweek Bible Study Groups, one at Sherwood and one at Willawarrin. It seems to me that these have helped people grow closer to God and to one another. The number of people attending Church has certainly increased and I know some people have committed their lives to the Lord.

As the local Church community consolidates and grows we are challenged to support and assist Captain Ron Griffin in his ministry."



Across Creeks and Paddocks



Visiting the Schafer family, David, Wendy and baby Jonathon

He's got an Akubra Hat

On the farm

PIONEER BREAD

500 grams flour (wholemeal or white, plain flour)
½ cup wheatgerm (optional)
¼ cup gluten flour
1 teaspoon salt (optional — I don't use it)

Take the above ingredients and mix in a large bowl.

1 ½ heaped dessertspoons dried yeast
(Dribalm yeast is good)
1 teaspoon sugar or honey

Take the above ingredients and mix well in 1 cup warm water (hot bath temperature). Then leave in a warm place for 10-15 minutes, till it bubbles up.

Then pour yeast mixture into the flour mixture, and add about 1 cup of warm water — more or less as required — and mix — so that the mixture is moist but not sticky to the touch.

Then knead for about 10 minutes, till the mixture becomes more elastic. (Be sure it is kneaded well).

Then roll in sesame seeds, and place in a greased bread tin. Leave in a warm place to rise for 1 hour. (I put mine on the mantle-piece above the fuel stove — usually just placing the bread in the sun is not good enough and takes too long to rise).

Bake about 1 hour at 350F. (It should be slightly brown on top, and firm underneath).

DAVID SCHAFER, WABRO ("UP RIVER")

FAITH — We're Giving It Away!

We would like to help you, as you try to witness to your friends. To this end, may we send you a free book you can either lend or pass on to someone else? "Finding Faith" is a colourful, beautifully produced, easy to read book of 128 pages. Well chosen photographs illustrate clearly set out chapters which act as a guide for people searching for meaning in life. This book is now selling for $7.95. We will send (post free) a copy of "Finding Faith" to anyone who sends a donation to Church Army of $25.00 or more, before 31st January next year. There are many people who are trying to find a purpose and direction in life. We believe this excellent book can confidently be shared for individual reading or group study, and will help others discover God for themselves. The leaflet in this Pioneer gives details of other Lion Manuals. A free copy of "Finding Faith" could well start your collection! In this way we can help each other — to help others find Jesus Christ.

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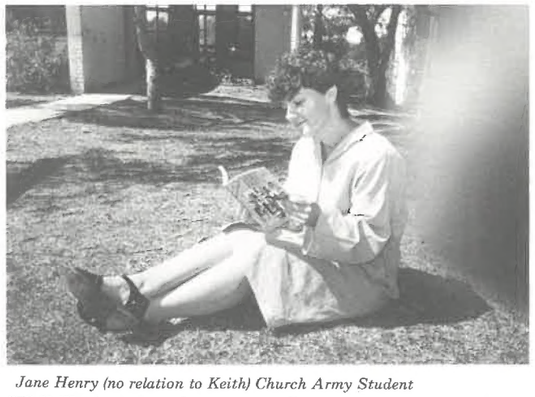
Anne Deane
"It makes you think about what you believe"

Keith Henry: co-ordinator Evangelism Activities St. Mark's, Avalon N.S.W.
"An ideal book for new Christians and those searching!"



Jane Henry (no relation to Keith) Church Army Student
"Well illustrated, and easy to read"

stepping out ...

in faith
in love
in understanding

STEPPING OUT

Stepping out . . . in Faith . . . in Love . . . in Understanding, was the Theme God gave us for our Parish Mission. "Changes have definitely been made, there has been real spiritual growth, people have become more committed. There is a greater willingness for people to share and minister to others, says Fr. George Trower, our Parish Priest. They realise that if the Church is to grow they have to be involved!".

The Anglican church of the Ascension, Heatley is in Townsville, Queensland. Parish population is approximately 50,000; 12,000 are Anglicans and 200 are communicants.

Many of us knew and trusted that the Lord had called us to take part in this Mission, but our humanness was afraid of what lay ahead. People said, "I've never been part of a Mission before", or "I've heard of Missions — but three months?"

The results? . . . Many individuals have been blessed or, as Sister Lyn Bullard, one of the two C.A. Officers leading the Mission, was often heard to say, "Blessed out of our socks!". The changes are here clearly for others to see, the

One year older

fruits of the Spirit are being revealed, fellowship, love and ministry to one another is in action. As a Parish we have set aims and goals to head towards.

During planning before the Mission, we decided that the special Reachout Week would be aimed at the 18 to 35 age group. This group it seemed to us was the one we had tended to neglect in the past. In preparation for Reachout Week about 200 young people were visited by members of the congregation. About 50 came to various Church activities during Reachout Week and some gave their lives to the Lord!

Nearly 140 people took part in the Mission Study Courses provided by Church Army and conducted by the Missioners, Sister Lyn Bullard and Sister Sabina Fantoni. Even before

The "I" Witness Mobile Evangelistic Ministry Team Sister Lyn Bullard and Sister Sabina Fantoni (with guitar)

Left to right: Sr. Sabina Fantoni, Bishop Arthur Malcolm C.A., Mrs. Coleen Malcolm, Sr. Lyn Bullard and Rev. George Trower

the Mission was over, plans were well in hand for re-running the Courses — Our Motivational Gifts, Dynamic Christian Living and Friendship Evangelism. Currently there is one group doing Motivational Gifts and six groups doing Dynamic Christian Living.

So what is our Parish up to now? Well we have all the usual Church groups which we anticipate will become more alive and there will be a real growing of personal faith. Before, for some people words like "charismatic" and "pentecostal" tended to have bad connotations. These attitudes have changed and a spirit of renewal has swept into many lives. An 18 to 35 group has been formed. The 200 people invited to the Reachout Week have been included in the Parish visiting programme.

Luke 6:38 says, "Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap!". For me this describes the way in which the Lord has blessed us.

We offer our prayerful thanks to God for His many blessings and guidance, words of wisdom, and loving fellowship shared through His servants, Lyn and Sabina. May God continue to bless them and the people to whom they will minister to in the future.

Cathrine Meers
Mission Publicity Co-Ordinator.
ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
Heatley.

THE CHURCH ARMY IN AUSTRALIA

A Society of Evangelists within the Anglican Church

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Message

FROM THE FEDERAL DIRECTOR

Get into Training!

Capt. Gilbert Page.

"Leaders are not either born or made." So says John Adair in his book: The Becoming Church. He goes on to state — "Many people have in them a potential for leadership which has to be developed by a life-long learning process of experience and reflection."

So often people say to me they could never possibly do this or that task in the Church. It is true God gives particular gifts to people to carry out specific ministries. However, it is always his wish that disciples grow in knowledge of the faith, and in practical application of that faith to everyday living. There is need therefore to study the basic tenets of Christianity, in addition to seeking ways of deepening our relationship with the Lord and living more effectively to his glory.

God always has something greater in store for you. The Christian life is full of surprises. Just around the corner from today, the Lord has something for you to discover and do for him.

In Philippians 3 : 12-16, St. Paul speaks of his determination to push still further ahead, because he had not "arrived" just yet. Paul continued on his voyage of discovery until that day when he was to see "face to face", and understand fully those things which were as yet only dim outlines (I Corinthians 13 : 12)

Every member of the Church of God must use to the full the gifts he or she has been given — but this takes practice. We need to search for ways to strengthen our spiritual lives, and to build up our ministry muscles by regular use. Steady training in Christian things under the direction of a wise and experienced spiritual coach, will mean the disciple will be". . . an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work" (II Timothy 2 : 21)

THE CHURCH ARMY IN AUSTRALIA

P.O. BOX 107, FRENCHS FOREST, N.S.W. 2085

FEDERAL OFFICE COLLEGE OF EVANGELISM	Wyatt Ave., Belrose, N.S.W. (Tel. 451 8395) (Students Tel. 451 0928)
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BOOKSHOP MANAGER	Capt. N. A. Payne, C.A.

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

Yesterday, a keen young Christian writing to Church Army about training to be an evangelist with the Anglican Church. Tomorrow a commissioned Church Army Captain or Sister, possibly in a country parish leading a mission; in an inner-city parish doing "street work" with drug addicts, prostitutes and youth at risk, in a suburban parish responsible for youth ministry and laity training; perhaps in a mining town seconded to B.C.A. to get a new parish started; or out and about in a rural area teaching in schools, visiting farms, timber mill communities or aboriginal reserves — getting to know people in need so that they in turn might get to know Christ who can meet their needs. But what happens between yesterday and tomorrow to shape and equip them for a ministry that can demand so much from a young person.

Preparation for ministry at the Church Army College of Evangelism, Belrose, is presently over two years prior to commissioning. A further year of ministry, applying what has been learnt, is required before the College's Diploma in Evangelism is awarded.

During the two years at Belrose the future evangelist lives in community, one in which he or she is expected to learn as much from giving and receiving as they do from the lectures and guided practical experience. Every member of the College community brings to the training programme their own unique knowledge, gifts, skills and experience that are woven into the course supplementing other strands of the programme.

In any given year more than sixty people contribute to the training of our Officers — Church Army staff (Federal Office and Field Workers), some twenty lecturers, up to twenty parish clergy and five or six missioners, plus lay-people helping as mentors. One student added up the people who had formally helped with her training and found it came to over forty five people. And that didn't include all the people she "practiced" on running groups, leading workshops, preaching and visiting during weekend field training and parish missions.

The present training involves eight strands of learning. These are:

1. Mission and Evangelism: Gaining an understanding of the purpose, mission and structures of the Church with a special emphasis on evangelism, pastoral care and religious education. This includes the principles and practice of Evangelism; Discipling; Lay Training and Evangelistic Preaching, person to person ministry and conducting Missions.

2. Biblical Studies: Getting a working knowledge of content and exegesis of Old and New Testament and the ability to use them in preaching, teaching, evangelism and counselling.

3. Man in His Environment: Acquiring a working knowledge of Human Growth and Development. Coming to understand the major structures of society with an awareness of the way the Christian message and the ministry of the Church relates to personal and social problems and needs of men and women in different racial and social situations.

4. Theological Foundations: Gaining an understanding of the basic doctrinal beliefs of the Church and the ability to state both their validity and their relationship to daily life, as well as a knowledge of the alternatives to Christian belief and a practical knowledge of the best approach to each of these religions, philosophies and attitudes.

5. Education: Getting to grips with the educational task of the church and how to use teaching skills with different age groups and in various social situations. Developing a degree of expertise in communication including the ability to teach and preach; a basic knowledge of group dynamics; ability to listen; experience and ability in public speaking and group leadership; a knowledge of music and religious drama; familiarity with various forms of the media and technical efficiency using audio-visual aids.

Rev Graeme MacRobb, Lecturing at College

6. Pastoral Studies and Parish Ministry: Receiving the basic principles of Clinical Pastoral Education with practical work balancing lectures and guided reflection; training in counselling and other primary skills related to pastoral care. Receiving knowledge of the basics of parochial administration, chairmanship and meeting procedure. Training in leadership and management skills, including the development of each students' special gifts and talents and an understanding of the principles of laity training and "enabling" of others in ministry. The ability to plan and conduct both formal and extemporary worship in traditional and unconventional situations.

7. Personal and Spiritual Development: Shaping up a developed and disciplined spiritual life, a good relationship with himself or herself, the ability to relate to others and to cope with crisis and the ability to draw upon and use the devotional and sacramental resources of the Christian Church in community with others.

8. Practical Experience: Each weekend each student travels to parish, where he or she works with the Rector and parishioners gaining practical experience in as many areas as possible so that the theory learned during the week is anchored in reality. Equally what is done in parish comes back into the weekday curriculum where it becomes the basic data for personal reflection and group discussion and improvement. Each year the students will participate in two or three evangelistic missions taking an increasingly active part until in the final term he or she is co-missioning with a qualified missioner or leading a small programme of their own in a rural area. Each year several weeks are spent observing other ministers at work in special areas of ministry e.g. prisons, social welfare, youth work, counselling, programme developing. Out of eighty four weeks of training over the two years between eighteen and twenty weeks involve field experience followed by reflection and formal and informal discussion.

On the 5th December, at St. John's Paramatta, five young people, Ken Foley, Jane Henry, Gai Atwell, Barry Thatcher and Warren Smith will be admitted to the office of Evangelist by Bishop Ken Short on behalf of the Primate and receive their Church Army Commission from the Federal Director. We pray that "tomorrow" a long and fruitful ministry lies ahead of them as they build on the foundations laid "today" at the College of Evangelism and in the various parishes where they have been trained.